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THE NEW YORK HERALD was founded by James Gordon Bennett, Sr. It remained the sole property of its founder until his death in 1872, when it was sold to his son, James Gordon Bennett, Jr. The paper, which remained in his hands until his death in 1919, was sold to the present owner, Frank A. Munsey, in 1920.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1922.

Flouting International Usage.

The opinion of the Attorney-General, on the strength of which the President has directed that no liquor shall be carried on any ships or in any waters of the United States, has two distinct phases.

One of these is the prevention of the sale or transportation of liquor on American ships. It ends the effort of Chairman LASKER of the Shipping Board to make his vessels as attractive to drinkers as the ships of foreign lines have been.

That phase of the opinion is logical. Our ships are a part of our country. If we must be dry ashore we should be dry afloat. Whatever may be the pecuniary loss to Government passenger ships there must be consistency.

Just as the position of the Government in the first phase is logical, so in the second phase is illogical. It is more than that. It is dangerous. This country, announcing to all the other countries of the world that no ship, whatever flag it may fly, will be permitted to come within the three mile limit if it carries intoxicating beverages, is doing something that would be ridiculous if it were not so rash.

If this Government, through either court decision or act of Congress, does not recede from its amazing position the outer world will regard us as a nation that is flouting international usage.

It is true that we have absolute territorial supremacy within the three mile limit. But, as OPENHEIM declares in his "International Law," the three mile belt is, nevertheless, "according to the practice of all the States, open to merchantmen of all nations for inoffensive navigation." Is the carrying of liquor offensive when the ship does not intend to land it here but to keep it under lock and key? Certainly it is not offensive in the eyes of most of the nations whose collective opinion creates and maintains international law.

Are the great passenger fleets of England to jettison their stocks of liquor at Sandy Hook and either make the return voyage dry or go to Halifax for replenishment?

Are France and Italy expected to alter their customs and contracts providing that wine shall be served to sailors who desire it?

Is North Atlantic Ocean traffic to be diverted from New York and Boston to the Canadian ports?

Are we going to forbid a Spanish ship, carrying a case of sherry to Cuba, to enter a Porto Rican harbor to take on oranges?

Are we going to compel a Japanese vessel bound for San Francisco to throw her liquor overboard in the middle of the Pacific or else forego her stop at Hawaii?

When we make our Shipping Board vessels dry all that we lose is money. But when we attempt to overthrow the maritime usage of the civilized world by any such proceeding as is contemplated in the Daugherty program we lose more than money. We lose the respect and friendship of the nations we harass.

This country has been sensitive of its rights at sea. It once went to war because another nation seized and searched its vessels. It has been jealous of its territorial rights and has insisted upon them. The Supreme Court of the United States, in an opinion on the prohibition amendment, recently declared that "every American vessel is for some purposes regarded as a part of American territory." Yet the Daugherty opinion advises us to interfere with the territory that foreign ships are; interfere although there has been no attempt on the part of the vessels to land liquor in the United States!

If the other nations could afford to laugh there would be something to laugh at. The spectacle of the United States, with its failure to enforce the Eighteenth Amendment and its miserable scandal of bootlegging and bribery, attempting to purify the cargoes of ships of other nations is ludicrous indeed.

What has led to this impossible situation? The President has had to rely on the advice of his Attorney-General. That Attorney-General says his opinion is based on decisions of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court's decisions have been rendered

to illuminate acts of Congress. And of course Congress was trying to put the Eighteenth Amendment into statute form.

But in the long journey between the Constitution and the Daugherty opinion the real purpose of the Eighteenth Amendment seems to have been lost sight of. For that amendment never intended that the United States should drive the honest ships of other nations from its ports.

The Bait for Socialists.

The voters of New York State have a good deal of curiosity regarding the treatment which ALBERT E. SMITH, the Democratic candidate for Governor, will give to certain parts of the Democratic State platform.

Mr. SMITH has been looked upon as a liberal conservative but never as a socialist or anything like it. Yet the platform adopted at Syracuse, the platform upon which Mr. SMITH presumably is running, has a very strong flavor of socialism. It might have been written for Mr. LUNN, who is second on the ticket, to run on.

The platform calls for an amendment to the Constitution giving cities and villages power to buy and operate public utilities. It calls for a law that will permit communities to buy and operate bus lines. It calls for State ownership of hydroelectric power.

Were these planks put in at the behest of Mr. SMITH? It scarcely seems likely, unless that conservative man has been won over to new doctrines. What appears far more probable is that the Democratic machine saw a chance to corral a large part of the Socialist vote by padding the platform with Socialist stuff and seized the opportunity.

It will be interesting to see whether Mr. SMITH ever comes to a discussion of these features of the platform upon which he is supposed to be running; and, if he does reach these items, how he will defend them.

A Church That Fought Witches.

The First Church of Danvers, Massachusetts, is preparing to celebrate its 250th anniversary. This church has a peculiar place in the early history of this country, for within it in 1692 was the beginning of the Salem witchcraft craze, in which during the five months of its course hundreds of persons were arrested, many tried, nineteen hanged and one pressed to death for refusing to plead to the indictment against him. Few instances of the witchcraft delusion have attracted so much attention, none have had the details more fully and minutely preserved. It was, said JOHN FISKE, the most gruesome episode in American history.

When in 1672 the church was built Danvers was called Salem Village. The church, a plain two story frame building, was with the parsonage the center of the community which was made up of a group of farm houses three or four miles from the town of Salem. This church stood until 1701; it was succeeded by five other buildings before the present modern structure was erected.

In 1692 its pastor was the Rev. SAMUEL PARRIS, who had come to the village from the Barbados. He was coarse and arrogant in his manner and he involved his parishioners in a quarrel which for truculent bitterness was said to have been scarcely equalled in the envenomed annals of New England parishes. "It was a spectacle," said JOHN FISKE, "such as old Nick must have contemplated with grim satisfaction."

The clergyman brought from West Indies two servants, JOHN INDIAN, and a woman, half negro, half Indian, known as TITUBA. They were familiar with the voodoo rites practiced by the colored people on the West Indian islands and they frequently entertained the pastor's daughter and niece with tricks of magic and incantations. Other girls joined these two until a circle of ten was formed, which met frequently at the parsonage. Under the tuition of TITUBA they learned to go into trances, talk gibberish and crawl around the furniture like snakes.

They came to be known as the "afflicted children." To the surprise, perhaps, of some of them their parents began to take their actions seriously, and when two of them were chided for their "evil behavior" they said that they were bewitched. Then the Rev. Mr. PARRIS took the affair into his own hands with a great flourish of trumpets. At Sunday church services early in March, 1692, he announced that the souls of many persons in the village were endangered by witchcraft and diabolical operations. "It seems the devil has been raised amongst us," he said, "and his rage is vehement and terrible; and when he shall be silenced the Lord only knows."

Some of the afflicted children were commanded to point out their tormentors and they named TITUBA and two forlorn old women of the village. These were arrested and sent to jail to await trial. This was the beginning; but the craze once started no person seemed able to stop it. TITUBA confessed that the devil, as a man in black with a yellow bird, appeared to her and made her torture the girls. She named the two old women as her accomplices. By thus turning King's evidence her life was spared—she was sold as a slave to defray the expenses of her trial—and the two old women were condemned to death.

At one time there were 126 persons in the Salem jail awaiting trial. ANN PUTNAM was the most useful of the witnesses for the prosecution. She could be depended upon to have seen the devil in some form or another acting as aid to most of the accused. On her evidence Rev. Gideon BURROUGHS, a graduate of Harvard

and former pastor of the Salem Village church, was condemned to death. She said that three persons recently dead had appeared to her and accused Mr. BURROUGHS of murdering them. She sent a man and a woman to the gallows by testifying that in a trance she had seen them strangling and biting a young girl.

Two women died in jail; one of them, who was 106 years old, had as an accuser her own daughter. One of the most highly respected women of the community was executed; her husband, 80 years old, refusing to plead, was placed under a great weight and fed by a morsel of bread and drops of water until death ended his suffering. Five were hanged on August 15. A month later eight persons, of whom four were women, died on the gallows. This was the last scene in the tragedy. There were further trials but no executions, and early in 1693 all witchcraft prisoners were released from jail.

There have been years of controversy over this strange craze. One theory was that it originated with the quarrelsome pastor and a woman of the community as a means of avenging themselves on their enemies in the intensely bitter quarrels of the parish. The ground for this apparently was that against many of those who suffered the pastor and his woman aid had grudges. But this seems too diabolic a scheme to consider. Besides, there appears no doubt that both these persons firmly believed in witches.

Again, it has been a question if the "afflicted children" were the victims of hallucination, perhaps hypnotic influence, or were just plain liars. And also were they in collusion with the pastor and his aids? ANN PUTNAM fourteen years afterward humbled herself before the Salem Village church, declaring that she was instrumental in bringing "upon the land the guilt of innocent blood" and that she desired to lie in the dust for it.

But in this controversy it is always to be remembered that the belief in witches and their power over humanity was very general and that people had been tried on the charge of witchcraft in Europe, especially in England, long before the Salem craze and were still being brought to trial for several years after it ended. The first witchcraft victim in America was a Charlestown woman, hanged in 1648. A woman was a year or so afterward hanged for witchcraft in Dorchester and another in Cambridge.

In 1656 Mrs. ANN HIBBENS, whose husband was at one time the colony's agent in England, was hanged as a witch on Boston Common. The trials were in accordance with the procedure of the English courts in the colonies. The men who formed the special commission to try the cases were some of the ablest judges of the day. Among these was SAMUEL SEWALL, a man of broad and liberal education. In 1697 he stood up in South Church, Boston, while a bill was read in which he took the "blame and shame of the guilt" and asked pardon of the people.

The Salem craze was the last witch epidemic in civilized nations, the "exploding paroxysm of the witchcraft delusion." Public opinion condemned the prosecutions. No jury could be found which would bring in a verdict of guilt on the charge of witchcraft. The laws which made these prosecutions possible became dead letters—killed, as obnoxious laws are when tested, by their own strict enforcement.

Freedom in the Novel.

The novels we are nowadays beseeched and commanded to read by the book advertisements have a way of turning out not to be novels at all but of being one of half a dozen other forms of the written word. As likely as not we encounter an unblinking autobiography; another author provides an animated text book produced on a half digested basis of psychoanalytic study; another devotes himself to proving that a Frenchwoman cannot marry a blond Eskimo and be happy.

Controversy and propaganda raise their heads from every other book cover. A novel is thrust at us with the injunction that we must read it because it has a big theme and is sure to provoke violent discussion. Anything goes in the novel now, some of the critics tell us. "It has made for itself a great elasticity of form. It has broken loose from the old confinements." The most successful of writers in bending a novel to meet the demands of the social question which occupied him at the time he began to write it. He began by being rather a good novelist, but gradually the questions at issue, the new themes which engaged his interest, won dominance over his art. His last book, "The Secret Places of the Heart," can be called a novel only for the sake of convenience.

At this moment Mr. HUTCHINSON'S "This Freedom" is receiving a lot of attention. The book which made Mr. HUTCHINSON famous, "If Winter Comes," didn't attempt to prove anything. In it the author let his characters run the show; like a true novelist and an artist he took life as he found it. But in "This Freedom" he has chosen to defend the theme that no woman can build a career for herself in the world of men and at the same time successfully fulfill her duty as a wife and mother. The theme takes Mr. HUTCHINSON by the nape of the neck and turns him into a bad propagandist.

There is such a thing as too much freedom in the novel. Like too much

freedom in anything else, it ends by the setting up of a new authority. In the case of the novel it establishes the tyranny of an idea. It aborts or kills the natural function of character, and makes it temporarily impossible for the novelist to take a level view of life. The novel may be made good propaganda to its grave detriment as an artistic form. This enlargement and liberation it has achieved may be its destruction.

Nationalism in Drama.

The impulse toward national drama is making itself strongly felt in most of the English speaking countries, although its influence may so far have failed to touch the commercial theater. Its beginnings are usually made in a little theater or in some playhouse associated with an educational institution. Few movements have started with such vigor as that led by Lady GAYBOURN, who was able within a short time to found the Abbey Theater.

Ireland has been satisfied for years with BOUICAULT as its more or less national playwright. Literary Ireland of the present day, however, demanded SYDNEY, YEATS, ROBINSON, Moore and the rest of that school as the really representative writers for the stage. BOUICAULT'S stage Irishman is a caricature of the past. Gone from the minds of the present generation are the Shaughaun and the rest of the children of the man that Ireland was once proud of.

Australia is in the same way demanding that its drama represent national life as it exists to-day. HADDOX CHAMBERS won fame a generation ago with his melodrama of the bush, "Captain Swift." The aspirations of the Australian playwrights of the nationalistic movement are, however, remote from the model on which Mr. CHAMBERS built his clever plays. The life of the people in the bush, on the vast stretches of its plantations and even in its suburban towns is the concern of Australia's young dramatists. Of course it is only the small company of the elect that shares this exclusive preference for realism on its stage. Probably the man in the street likes drama in its less literary forms.

Canada, which has supplied playwrights during recent years with its halfbreeds, its mounted police and its younger sons, has also expressed its belief in a theater more closely allied to its actual existence. There has been no lack of young writers to respond to this need. More or less amateur actors and special theaters are also at hand. The Canadian drama that the public likes is, however, the kind with which it has been familiar for years. The newer school is known only to the inner circle. The familiar figures of the border drama are still most potent with theatergoers the world over.

This attempt to correlate the drama with local life is not confined to England and her colonies. It has found expression in the United States, especially in the Middle West. Some of the Wisconsin products have been brought to New York and approved here. It was Lady GAYBOURN who felt that no other country afforded such inspiration to local dramas as the United States. Her suggestion that the theaters in the Ozarks, in Minnesota, in Louisiana and other sections of the country be devoted to plays of those regions did not end with the local playhouses. She also urged a central temple in one of the largest cities, preferably New York or Boston, in which the best of these plays could be acted every year.

Such an institution could with difficulty be maintained under the conditions that govern the existence of theaters in this country. It is, moreover, doubtful if it is needed. The American theater is beginning to represent more completely every year the life of the people.

The Giants now have what the baseball sharps may regard as one of those mathematical certainties. With only one more game to win and the Yankees in need of four victories the outlook of Professor McGraw must be bright. His pitchers were better than could have been expected and he has been fortunate in the breaks.

The new president of Colgate, Dr. GEORGE BARTON CUTTEN, says that one citizen out of every five has the mentality of a thirteen-year-old child. It's a good opening for the believers in the psychological test.

More families moved on October 1 than on any moving day in many years. And more men, probably, heard the words: "Don't hang that picture here; hang it there!" than ever heard it before.

New York, it appears, is not the only sinner in its neglect of landmarks with historic interest. The first house in which BENJAMIN FRANKLIN lived in Philadelphia, now a tottering shanty, is to be torn down to provide for the approach of the new Delaware River bridge.

Anti-Climax.

As two grown tired, we lay aside the volume.
But stay a moment! Let us mark the place.
To-morrow brings again the sun to heaven.
The dew to earth—but not your well-loved face.
No more together shall we read Love's story.
But happy in the years that are to be,
My idle fingers, turning through the pages
Shall chance on this—and linger lovingly.
Remembering a romance still unfinished,
A tale whose climax we can never know—
And I shall sigh, and "Would it," I shall wonder,
"If we had turned the page, have ended so?"
HELEN FRANK-BROWNE.

New Hampshire.
Surry, Walpole, Alstead, Grange, Mount Mariah and the Presidential Range—
Pomp and pride of the Granite State! Frankenstein!—and you're at the gate.
Orford, Kelley, Cornish Flat, Stratford How—your hat—
Short Falls, Piercebridge, Penacook, Winnepesaukee, Lamprey—brook.
Passaconaway, Errol, Keene, Canobie Lake, a lovely scene,
Wedge, Nashua, Amherst, Suncook, Doverpoint—a dot.
Granite, Sumnerworth, Sunapee, Portsmouth—opposite Kittery—
Willowdale, East Westmoreland, Coos, Tamworth, Winnisquam, Umbagog—views!
Wentworth Location, Indian Stream, Monmouth, Hookset, Third Lake—dream!
Concord, Laconia, Landaff, Percy, Stark, Center Tuftonboro—mercy!
Fitzwilliam, Candia, Dixville Notch, Massabesic, Dublin, Scotts—that's Scotch—
Amoskeag, Gilmanston, South Sutton, Boscaawen, Pabayan's—press the button!
MAURICE MORAS.

College Courses for All.

A Democracy Not an Aristocracy of Brains in America.
To THE NEW YORK HERALD: The unfortunate introduction of a rasping phrase in the recent discussion of the one-ten percent alloy of capital has stamped on this little disk merely the value of the pure gold it contains.
Gold as a commodity has been used as a medium of exchange from time immemorial. Its value for this purpose is due to a unique group of properties. It is malleable, ductile, non-corrosive, durable, easily divisible and its identity is perfect. The supply is limited, the demand for it is steady, and its bulk is small in proportion to its value. It is easily transported and easily guarded.
Not only is the production limited but much of this is absorbed by the arts. It has fulfilled more requirements for a standard of value than any other commodity. Its value has fluctuated with supply and demand as have other commodities, but stability has been in general.

The diffusion of wealth in America is being followed by a diffusion of education. Thirty years ago we listened to the rattle of silvery harness trappings on Fifth Avenue and gaped at aristocracy. To-day we listen to the honk of the automobile from New York to San Francisco on the transcontinental highways and ride with the democracy.

Thirty years ago we framed Willie's grammar school diploma and invited all the neighbors in to see it. A few years later our national Willies were arguing that they could get a better job if they had a high school certificate to show their prospective bosses. But to-day Bill of his own accord insists that he cannot get by without a degree in college. It's up to Bill. BOICE DU BOIS.
NEW YORK, October 7.

Self-Starting Fires.

Careless Disposal of Rags May Lead to Spontaneous Combustion.
To THE NEW YORK HERALD: In the prevention of fires it is important to consider the self-starting variety.
One of the commonest and most dangerous causes of these is that old family remedy and disinfectant, spirits of turpentine. Some years ago a servant in the house of the writer used a can of turpentine to clean a wooden chair. The can was left standing in the room and the turpentine evaporated and caught fire. The house was burned to the ground.

The house was soon filled with smoke, the cause located and the rag was found to be badly charred from the center outwardly, which shows conclusively that combustion came from within and was spontaneous. Exactly the same thing happened a few months later in a Government department building in Washington.

Questions asked with a cleaning compound the base of which was turpentine were carelessly thrown into a waste basket and only the vigilance of the night watchman prevented a disastrous fire. This latter incident happened at 2 o'clock in the morning, and no one possibly could have visited the room for several hours previous.

Questions to ask every householder are: Where do you keep your matches? What do you do with your trash and your oil soaked rags used in painting and cleaning? Ponder these two questions now and it may save your home.
CHARLES E. BRUCE.
NEW YORK, October 7.

Planets Are Crowding Us.

Results Predicted: More Rain in Two Hemispheres.
To THE NEW YORK HERALD: To investigate scientifically whether there will be an increase or decrease of the world's amount of rainfall, the southern hemisphere wheat crop this fall and our northern hemisphere wheat crop of next spring, we find planets holding the earth outward from the sun from September 15, 1922, to May 23, 1923, which will cause sufficient rainfall on the earth during that period, and especially near the dates of quadrature, greatest elongation, conjunction, opposition and inferior conjunction of planets and near the dates of the important occultations.

The result will be more rainfall in the southern hemisphere than occurred there last fall and too much rain in most localities of our northern hemisphere next spring. This will make enormous agricultural growth from September 1, 1922, to June 1, 1923.
KANSAS CITY, Mo., October 5.

The Hahn Not Criticized.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: What I endeavored to make clear in my letter about the former submarine chaser Hahn is that it is ridiculous to try to patrol the waters in and about New York and stop rum smuggling with one lonely converted sub chaser like the Hahn when there are so many fast destroyers available.
I am the last one in the world to belittle the splendid work done during the war by the officers and men who served in the moonlight fleet.
JOHN T. TUPHILL, JR.,
Lieutenant, Junior Grade, U. S. N. R. F.
PAROCHIE, October 7.

A Paradox of Gold as Money

The Most Stable of Standards of Value, Its Average Production Has Been at a Loss.

It seems difficult to impress people with the fact that money, except commodity money, is not wealth. Money is merely a convenience, a means to an end, but not the end itself. It is a medium for distributing or transferring wealth without transporting bulk in every transaction of exchange between man and man. It is a symbol or token which simply signifies at any given moment in whose hands the wealth it represents resides. And at any given moment it may serve to transfer wealth from one man to another or it may be converted into wealth by surrendering it to the market.

Gold coin is really what is called commodity money. So that when gold is paid for an article the process is merely that of exchanging one commodity for another. This is, in effect, barter. In illustration of this it is only necessary to give the facts in regard to the gold dollar.

The dollar weighs 25.8 grains. It is nine-tenths fine, so that 23.22 grains are pure gold. The Government pays a fixed price of \$20.67183 an ounce for gold. The ounce contains 480 grains. Divide 480 grains by 23.22 grains and it will be found that the ounce of gold will make exactly 20.67183 dollars. Since the coinage of gold is free, the Government pays for the minting and the one-ten percent alloy of copper, thus stamping on this little disk merely the value of the pure gold it contains.

Gold as a commodity has been used as a medium of exchange from time immemorial. Its value for this purpose is due to a unique group of properties. It is malleable, ductile, non-corrosive, durable, easily divisible and its identity is perfect. The supply is limited, the demand for it is steady, and its bulk is small in proportion to its value. It is easily transported and easily guarded.
Not only is the production limited but much of this is absorbed by the arts. It has fulfilled more requirements for a standard of value than any other commodity. Its value has fluctuated with supply and demand as have other commodities, but stability has been in general.

The Moon of Madness.

I'll shirk no duty
All of the year.
I'll tend the hearth fire,
Be of good cheer.
I'll brew and bake;
All of my old ways
Gladly forsake.
But when October
Comes once again
Don't try to hold me
With bolt and chain.
For then I care not
For pumpkinkin—
Only the sunbake,
Only the wind.

Hoyt's Comedies.

Memories of the Popular Hits Made by Players and Songs.
To THE NEW YORK HERALD: The letters recalling the railroad song in Charles H. Hoyt's play "A Hole in the Ground" bring back memories of that author's other plays.
One of the first to be produced was "A Trip to Chinatown," which had a very long run. The leading people in that were Anna Boyd and Harry Conner. Two songs were brought out in this piece were "The Bowery" and "Reuben, Reuben, I've Been Thinking." In "A Rag Baby" Frank Daniels made one of his most pronounced successes as the sport who was always delighted to "shake the hand that shook the hand of Sullivan."

"A Temperance Town" was a satire on prohibition. Caroline McKel, Hoyt's wife, and George Richards appeared in this piece. It had a long run. "A Midnight Bell," a satire on country village and church life, was produced at the old Bijou, Thirtieth street and Broadway, with a very fine cast, including Maude Adams, Thomas G. Seabrook as Deacon Todd, R. J. Dillon as the clergyman and Eugene Confield as the country boy, who had a good song called "When Pop Was a Little Boy Like Me."

In "A Texas Steer" Tim Murphy was the star and made much of the part of Maverick Brand. He had a song called "The Wild Man of Borneo." George Marion was the Minister from Dahomey.
"A Soldier" was played at the Standard, Thirty-third street and Broadway, and had a good cast, headed by James T. Powers as the plumber's helper and George C. Boniface as the plumber. Hoyt produced his skit "A Brass Monkey" at the Bijou. The principal part was played by Charlie Reed, who later was co-star with William Kelly in "The Soldier." "A Contented Woman" I do not remember much about as I only saw them once; the others I saw two or three times each.
M. E. FOLSON.
NEW YORK, October 7.

Courtesy in the Subway.

Experience of a Man of 50 Which He Thinks Unusual.
To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Entering a subway train, I found myself in a vania Station recently during the rush hour I managed to find standing room near a young man who was seated. From his dress he was evidently a laborer and was about 25.
Looking at me he suddenly arose from his seat and taking me by the arm said: "Please sit, I wish that you would take my seat." To which I replied, "I thank you very much for your kindness, but would much rather have you keep your seat." I was much surprised that a stranger should be so courteous. Twenty-five years this man's senior—could it be that the appearance of being old and feeble?

At Chambers street the seat next to his was vacated, which I at once occupied, asking him why his seat was offered to me. He said: "I felt that I should offer my seat to some one who would be as courteous as I looked. I concluded that you were the oldest one to which I could extend this courtesy. From my early life I was taught to pay my elders every possible attention and respect. In the twenty-five years of my life I have found that it is the small courtesies which sweeten and greatly ennoble our lives."

This was indeed a rare experience of which mention should be made. True politeness simply consists in treating others just as you like to be treated.
GEORGE WILSON JENKINS.
BROOKLYN, October 7.

Old School No. 4.

A Former Pupil Looks Back to the Days of Fifty Years Ago.
To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Your correspondent Manados in his interesting article about the East Side makes mention of School No. 4 on Livingston street. I attended there fifty years ago. Since leaving school I have never met or heard of any of my classmates, and I wonder through the eight classes of the grammar department, have lived here in New York ever since and meet many people daily.

Mr. Frable was the first class teacher. This class was in two sections. Those desiring to undergo examinations for City College stayed over in the second section after passing through the first section. Mr. Stratton was teacher of the second class. The teachers in the six other classes were women. Mrs. Furlong was the teacher of the fourth class; she was splendid, almost motherly, in her attitude.
The principal, Mr. Demit, was a little man with bushy eyebrows and hair on the back of his hands and a crank, we thought.
The highest point on the East Side was the northeast corner of the Bowery and Canal street, on which site stood the Summit Hotel. JACOB METZGER.
NEW YORK, October 7.

Limiting the Fatalities.

From the Osborne (Kan.) Farmer.
If every watermelon that has been killed in his youth there would be enough men left to stop back in the chair.

A Penny a Day.

How War Debts Could Be Decreased in Fifteen Years.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Figuring the population of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland at 42,757,530, a penny a day for fifteen years would be \$54.75 a person, which would aggregate \$2,341,522,267.50. With Australia and Canada contributing in the same proportion there would be \$754,586,184.50 more.

If other dependents or associated countries of Great Britain would contribute on the same basis for fifteen years they would clear the war debt up without issuing bonds.
SCHENECTADY, October 7.

Old Gulf Stream Fiction.

It Is Not the Cause of the Mild Climate of Western Europe.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: From time to time I have noticed the solicitude of certain Europeans regarding the improvements at the southern extremity of Florida and their fear of a shifting of the course of the Gulf Stream and the results of freezing and starving Europe. Referenced in your paper of October 4 to this subject, and especially to the last paragraph thereof, where it is stated:

"The very nature of ocean currents such as the Gulf Stream, caused by the wind and the motion of the earth and affected by the moon, makes it all a question which scientists hesitate to explain."

It is believed that the following will lucidly and logically explain the Gulf Stream and the cause of the mild climate on the west shore of Europe and also the Japanese current and the mild climate on the northwest shore of North America, in about the same latitude as also the cold on the northeast shore of North America and Asia in the same latitude.

It is thought that these phenomena can be attributed to the great heat of the sun in the equatorial belt of the earth plus the revolution of the earth on its axis toward the east plus centrifugal force toward the equator. This great heat and force causes the air to flow along the equator, each instant increasing the air's southerly—north of the equator—or northerly—south of the equator—it crosses parallels of latitude of greater dimensions with consequent greater velocity; the air current dragging on the surface of the earth, which gives it a direction which is the resultant of its eastward flow toward the equator and its drag on the earth's surface, caused by greater circles of latitude as mentioned above. This resultant north of the equator is the northeast trade wind, which is described in Columbus's accounts of the discovery of America, and through which the writer has sailed many times. South of the equator the resultant of the eastward flow toward the equator and the drag on the earth's surface, caused by greater circles of latitude as mentioned above, is the southeast trade wind. These winds blow in the same direction, and any person who has lived along the coast knows the great effect that wind has on a large expanse of water: sometimes blowing nearly across the water out of harbors and at other times banking the water high in harbors.

For thousands of years this constant force from the northeast and southeast has banked up the waters in the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico and in the Indian Ocean, which banking causes the waters to rush north and south along the eastern coasts of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres, the northerly currents being known as the Japanese current and the Gulf Stream.

The Gulf Stream meets the arctic current just south of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, where its high temperature is cooled and as a decided current it disappears practically. No doubtless for thousands of years the Gulf Stream has been used in melting the icebergs coming down with the arctic current, and the silt coming down on these icebergs from the ice has melted may be the cause of the growth of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

Ship captains from Europe in sailing ship days never considered the Gulf Stream until they reached the area south of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. We have the full force of the Gulf Stream only a short distance away from the coast of the United States; yet we never hear of its keeping the coast of the United States mild, but Europe, a thousand miles away from it, is an important termination claims its mild climate is due to the Gulf Stream.

However, the western shore of Europe has a mild climate; and now let us